GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:57
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
IRREGULARITIES IN SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN
Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding misuse of funds and other irregularities in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years,State-wise;

(c) the number of officers against whom action has been taken for their involvement in the said cases, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check such cases in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.57 FOR 21.10.2008 ASKED BY SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO REGARDING IRREGULARITIES IN SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN.

(a) to (c): In the light of the report on the Performance Audit of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), submitted by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India in August 2006,for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05,and the examination of the points raised therein by the Government of India and State/UT SSA programmes,an amount of about Rs.53 crores was classified as expenditure not covered under the SSA guidelines.The Government of India directed the States to recoup the inadmissible expenditure to the State SSA programmes and an amount of Rs.32.38 crores has been recouped so far.

In addition,inter-alia,in 2006-07 Andhra Pradesh reported an embezzlement of Rs.14.98 crores under DPEP/SSA accounts.An FIR was lodged and the matter was investigated by the State CID.The State Government also suspended 3 accounts officials and transferred another 3 out of the State Project Office of SSA.In Haryana (2005-2007),11 officials involved in financial irregularities have been proceeded against wherein services of 2 officials have been terminated.In Karnataka, action has been taken against 21 officials and an amount of Rs.8.58 lakhs recovered from them.In West Bengal an amount of Rs.5.14 crore was fraudulently withdrawn by eight officials in one district where the State CID has arrested 7 persons and proceedings are underway.In Gujarat (2007-08) action was taken against two officials involved in financial irregularities in one district and Rs. 15.98 lakhs recovered.

(d): The Government of India has issued strict instructions to States/UTs to recoup the inadmissible expenditure and to avoid recurrence of such instances in future.Government of India has also laid down a Financial & Procurement Manual in SSA to streamline financial management systems and is monitoring the use of SSA funds through annual State/UT audits, independent concurrent financial reviews and field monitoring through 41 social science institutions.